A4

chamber 404 through to the vacuum or load beam seats 442, which in turn are attached to or integral with the top surface 450 of the plate 441. The bolt tap holes 449, in turn , align with the counter-sunk bolt holes 434 in the vacuum chambers 404 and 406 to enable a bolt to be threaded into the holes 434 and into the sub-tray to rigidly attach the sub-tray to the base 400.

A marked-up version of the amended paragraphs showing the changes relative to the present version of those paragraphs is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-26 and replace with new claims 27-48 as follows:

27. (New) A tray system for holding and positioning components, the tray system comprising:

a first tray comprising a first side having at least one component receptacle and an opposite second side having at least one component receptacle; and

A5

a second tray engageable with the first tray, the second tray comprising a first side having at least one component receptacle and an opposite second side having at least one component receptacle,

wherein the second side of the first tray is adjacent the first side of the second tray so that at least one component receptacle of the first side of the second tray is substantially aligned with at least one component receptacle of the second side of the first tray for cooperatively restraining the motion of a component positioned therein.

28. (New) The tray system of claim 27, further comprising at least one opening extending from the component receptacle on the first side of the first tray to the component receptacle on the second side of the first tray.

29. (New) The tray system of claim 28, further comprising a vacuum chamber in fluid communication with the opening of the first tray.

30. (New) The tray system of claim 27, wherein at least one of the component receptacles of the first side of the first tray comprises a base plate seat positioned adjacent a first load beam seat, and at least one of the component receptacles of the second side of the first tray comprises a base plate collar seat adjacent a second load beam seat.

31. (New) The tray system of claim 30, wherein at least one of the component receptacles of the first side of the second tray comprises a base plate seat positioned adjacent a first load beam seat, and at least one of the component receptacles of the second side of the second tray comprises a base plate collar seat adjacent a second load beam seat.

32. (New) The tray system of claim 31, wherein at least one of the base plate seats of the second tray includes a component engaging protuberance, wherein the protuberance is engageable with the base plate collar seat of the adjacent first tray.

33. (New) The tray system of claim 31, wherein at least one of the base plate collar seats of the first tray includes a component engaging recess, wherein the recess is engageable with the base plate seat of the adjacent second tray.

34. (New) The tray system of claim 30, wherein the first load beam seat further comprises at least one upwardly extending portion for laterally restraining a component positioned thereon.

35. (New) The tray system of claim 30, wherein the base plate collar seat further comprises a collar relief aperture for receiving a collar portion of a component.

36. (New) The tray system of claim 31, wherein the second load beam seat further comprises at least one upwardly extending portion for laterally restraining a component positioned thereon.

37. (New) The tray system of claim 30, wherein the first load beam seat further comprises at least one opening extending from the first side of the first tray to the second side of the first tray.

38. (New) The tray system of claim 31 in combination with at least one component.

39. (New) The tray system of claim 38, wherein the at least one component is a suspension used in a hard disk drive.

40. (New) The tray system of claim 27, wherein the first tray and second tray are identical.

41. (New) A tray system comprising:

a sub-tray comprising first and second opposite sides and a peripheral edge, wherein the first tray side includes at least one sub-tray load beam seat; and

at least one tray positioned on the first side of the sub-tray, the tray comprising at least one component receptacle having a tray base plate seat and a tray load beam seat,

wherein the sub-tray load beam seat is positioned between the tray base plate seat and the tray load beam seat.

42. (New) The tray system of claim 41, wherein the sub-tray load beam seat comprises an opening passing from the first side of the sub-tray to the second side of the sub-tray.

43. (New) The tray system of claim 41, wherein the sub-tray load beam seat comprises a load beam rest surface.